--- 1/4th Pound - "Series of 1883" - BLUE - 26 mm. "Montreal" imprint - 290 x 20 mm. ---

John McKay records that 65,900 copies of "1/4 Blue, Tobacco", *recess printed* by hand press, were 'delivered' under the **3rd BABN Contract** (1878-1886). On the next line, he records the 'delivery' of 229,300 *lithographed* copies of "1/4 Blue, Tobacco". The collection ***does not contain*** a lithographed strip - but I was not aware of their existence when the collection was being formed. Usually John McKay records the *lithographed* and the *recess printed* strips for the same denomination on one line. Possibly these 229,300 *lithographed* strips were from the "Series of 1880-81", and were being delivered to "Ottawa" for disposal as obsolete.

John McKay also records that 262,970 copies of "1/4 lb. Blue, Tobacco", *recess printed* by hand press, were 'Delivered' under the **4th BABN Contract** (1868-1892).

John McKay further records that 102,220 copies of the "1/4 Blue, Tobacco", *recess printed* by hand press, were 'Delivered' under the **5th BABN Contract** (1892-1897).

Finally McKay records that 49,220 copies of "1/4 lb. Blue, Tobacco", *recess printed* by hand press were 'Delivered' under the **5th ABN Supplement** (1897-1898). These sheets had been printed under the **5th BABN Contract** and remained in BABN stock when they lost the printing contract to ABN in 1897. By mutual agreement they were made available to the Department while ABN worked 'up-to-speed' with the die preparation and the printing of the "Series of 1897".

3rd BABN Contract - October 22nd 1878	65,900 recess (hand press)	**000001** to **065900**
4th BABN Contract - October 22nd 1886	262,970 recess (hand press)	**065901** to **328870**
5th BABN Contract - April 23rd 1892	102,220 recess (hand press)	**328871** to **431090**
5th ABN Supplement - (1897-1898)	49,220 recess (hand press)	**431091** to **480310**
	480,310	

The catalogue lists the *recess printed* "Series of 1883" blue 1/4th pound strip as follows:

RP-621 - 1/4th pound, blue, perforated 12, on horizontal mesh wove, "Montreal" imprint, 4 mm. red controls
RP-622 - 1/4th pound, blue, *coarse roulette*, on horizontal mesh wove, "Montreal" imprint, 4 mm. red controls
RP-623† - 1/4th pound, blue, perforated 12, *without* an imprint - **WANTED!**

Not a remnant, the strip illustrated below appears to be an early *control-free* strip printed on *vertical* mesh wove. The ***violet control*** numbered **RP-621A** (an early exhibition strip) is also printed on *vertical* mesh wove. The control-numbered copies of **RP-621** and **RP-622** have been printed on horizontal mesh paper.

RP-621 TP - 1/4th pound, blue, perforated 12, *without* control numbering,
Recess printed on vertical mesh wove - with a 287 mm design - 26 mm. "Montreal" imprint

All of the stamps bearing 4 mm. Gothic ***violet control numbers*** seem to come from the "Series of 1883". In a similar parallel, all of the stamps bearing the Lee Brandom 5 mm. Roman ***light blue controls*** seem to come from the "Series of 1880-81". I feel that the latter were prepared by BABN for Philatelic Exhibitions in 1880-81, and the former for an Exhibition in mid-1880. A few of the *violet* control numbered strips are found on *block watermarked* paper which indicates that these were initial printings from around 1883.

1/4th pound, perf 12, on vertical mesh wove paper, with a violet 4 mm. Gothic control **5 7 7 1 4** - scanned at 55% scale

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--- RP-621 - 1/4th pound - perf 12 - printed by hand press on horizontal mesh wove - scanned at 55% scale ---

--- delivered under the 4th BABN Contract (1886-1892) ---

RP-621 - 1/4th pound, perf 12 - 4 mm. control number **146304**,
Recess printed by hand press on horizontal mesh wove - stamped **15332** in purple ink

101929	RP-621	1/4th pound, perf 12, printed by hand press on horizontal mesh wove
146304★	RP-621	1/4th pound, perf 12, printed by hand press on horizontal mesh wove - stamped **15332** in purple ink

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--- delivered under the 5th BABN Contract (1892-1897) ---

RP-622 - 1/4th pound, *coarse roulette*, with 4 mm. control **377289**,
Recess printed by hand press on horizontal mesh wove paper - stamped **CANCELLED** in 3 mm. Gothic letters

377279	RP-622 CP	1/4th pound, perf 12, printed by hand press on horizontal mesh wove stamped **CANCELLED** in 3 mm. violet Gothic
377289★	RP-622 CP	1/4th pound, perf 12, printed by hand press on horizontal mesh wove stamped **CANCELLED** in 3 mm. violet Gothic

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--- delivered under the 5th ABN Supplement (1897-1898) ---

RP-622 - 1/4th pound, *coarse roulette*, with 4 mm. control **479112**,
Recess printed by hand press on horizontal mesh wove

479112★	RP-622	1/4th pound, perf 12, printed by hand press on horizontal mesh wove

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File path is [c:\ CR - STAMPS \ RP_STAMPS \ 1883 \ Blue \ 1-4 pound - 290 mm.],
In MS Word 2007 for Windows 7,
Formatted for a HP CP 1525 Laser Jet,
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